

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 0000054733	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/008011	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 17.07.2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25.07.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C08F291/06, C08F251/00, C08F265/00, C08F283/06		
Applicant BASF AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 12 sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/008011

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages 1, 2, 4, 9-16, 18, 20, 21, 23-25 as originally filed/furnished
 pages* 3, 5-8, 17, 19, 22 received by this Authority on 21.05.2005 with letter of 20.05.2005

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished

nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 nos.* 1-16 received by this Authority on 21.05.2005 with letter of 20.05.2005

nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:

sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/008011

Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: US-A-4 380 600 (HOSODA YOSHIKAZU ET AL) 19

April 1983 (1983-04-19)

D2: WO 93/21244 A (RAISION TEHTAAT OY AB; HAMUNEN

ANTTI (FI); ANTILLA MIKA (FI); NURMI K) 28

October 1993 (1993-10-28)

D3: US-A-5 227 446 (HARTMANN HEINRICH ET AL) 13

July 1993 (1993-07-13)

D1 is considered the closest prior art. It discloses an aqueous dispersion obtained by radical polymerisation of anionic monomers in the presence of one or more stabilisers. In examples 2, 15 and 17, PEG and water-soluble starch are used.

None of the polymers of group (a) of the present claim 1 is mentioned in D1.

The subject matter of claim 1 differs therefore from D1 in that the stabiliser system is different.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/008011

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

therefore be considered that of offering an alternative stabiliser system for aqueous dispersions comprising water-soluble polymers of ethylenically unsaturated anionic monomers.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) since the combination of polymers of groups a) and b) is not obvious from the cited documents. In particular, the polymers of group a) are not disclosed as stabilisers.

Claims 2-16 likewise meet the PCT novelty and inventive step requirements.